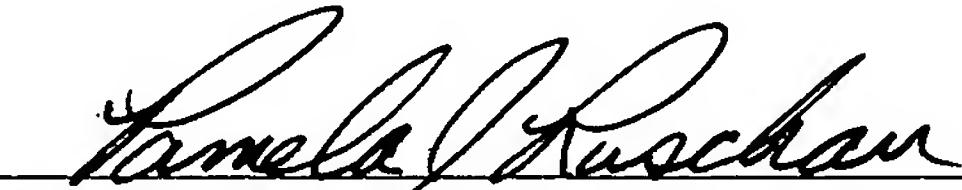


*REMARKS*

The claims have been amended to comport with U.S. patent practice by removing multiple claim dependencies, eliminating the omnibus claim, and clarifying certain language. No new matter has been added by way of these claim amendments. The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: April 14, 2005

Amendment - Preliminary (Revised 11-23-04)